FERTILISERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The drug companies have to pay the amounts overcharged in respect of bulk drugs and formulations, to the Government for deposit into DPEA account. The details of these cases, the total amount still remaining unpaid were given in annexure to the reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 234 answered on 12th March, 1992.

All efforts are being made to effect the recovery as legally permissible, as quickly as possible.

365. *(Transferred to the 5th May,* 1992]

Import of fertilizers without allotting Foreign Exchange

366. SHRI SANTOSH PAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import fertilizers without allotting foreign exchange and whether Government propose to allow private parties to import and trading the same;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner the Government plan to safeguard the interest of the farmers by this act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The import of raw maierials (rock phosphate and sulphur) and the intermediates (ammonia and phosphoric acid) has been decanalised under the Export and Import Policy announced by Government recently. The importers of raw materials and intermediates are also required to obtain foreign exchange from the market at market determined exchange rate to finance the import. The import of fertilizers, however, is canalised through Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) for which official foreign exchange will continue to be available. The increased foreign exchange rate for financing the import of raw materials and intermediates does not affect the farmers as the finished fertilizers still continue to be sold at the controlled rate as notified by Government.

Zintac range of formulations

367. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the price fixed by Government for Zintac range of formulations and what is the fate of the court case on the subject;

(b) what are the prices as which these formulations are being currently sold;

(c) on what basis the company is overcharging the price and what is the price of the bulk drug on which they are basing the prices of their formulations; and

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure that the price of this formulation is not overcharged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) The brand name 'Zintac' refers to Ranitidine based formulations in tablet form in 150 mg